

MEN OF CONGRESS ARRIVE IN THE RAIN

Washington Extends Its Hand
in Annual Welcome.

GOSSIP OF THE POLITICIANS

Senator Quay May Relinquish His
Aspirations to Succeed Himself.

Variety of Opinions Concerning the
Future of Speaker Reed, Who
Will Arrive Tonight.

Each incoming train today brings its quota of members of Congress from the various States, where the weather is usually as inclement as here; from the country of the lakes, by comparison with which this might even now be a comfortable summer resort, and from all that part of the country known as the South, which is vaguely understood to begin somewhere about St. Joe, Mo., and continue on down and west as far as it is temperate in the winter time from all these varied climates the statesmen are arriving today, and although the weather has been unable to postpone a few hours of the rainy and cheerless day, Washington extends its hand in annual welcome.

Senators and Representatives step from the station platform to cars and hitches and sometimes to street cars and hurry to the places where they have lived or to the places where they have been prepared for them, or to their homes. There was little handshaking or mingling of kindred spirits, and many even passed the new city postoffice without knowing that it has been opened since their last appearance here.

However, there was no dearth of gossip at the hotel lobbies. It concerned itself with the future of those whose future is sufficiently uncertain to be in doubt, and among those thus classified Speaker Reed figured prominently.

Mr. Reed, it was remarked, is putting off his arrival until the last minute. He is expected to reach Washington late tonight. The only edition of the general political public expects his presence before Monday is a large black item, which is usually inserted on the "Story" column, with the same dignity and ease as it displayed when offered to the declaration of war with Spain.

There is a vast amount of conflicting opinion concerning the future of Mr. Reed, but a seeming majority is possessed of the quiet conviction that unless the gentleman from Maine makes the concession which the Administration is expected to demand of him he will be defeated for the next Speakership.

Few believe that he is strong enough to antagonize the Administration through another Congress, and with the additional bitterness which has been fostered in recent developments. But it is generally certain that his friends and enemies are working more about his future than is Mr. Reed.

Another subject with which gossip concerned itself was the probability of Senator Quay, over in Pennsylvania. It is reported in political circles that Mr. Quay may change his plans and relinquish his aspirations for re-election to the Senate in favor of State Senator Chris Magee, of Pittsburgh. The appearance of Mr. Quay in Washington is awaited with considerable interest, since the star engagement he has played in political vaudeville in Pennsylvania. It is understood that while Mr. Quay does not object seriously to vanishing he holds himself above continuous performances, hence his reported relinquishment of the desire to succeed himself.

The statement made with an air of delightful mystery to his friends from the South by Joseph W. Bailey, the gentleman who aspires to lead the minority in the next Congress, to the effect that if the opposition to him could only be sifted to the bottom a huge political conspiracy would be found, has aroused as much curiosity as it is possible for Mr. Bailey's words to arouse when he insists upon taking himself seriously.

It is taken to mean that the gentleman from Texas is considering the desirability of revealing to the astonished world some fine plot to smear him clean of his glory, and in some quarters the statement is regarded as a forecast of some sweeping attack Mr. Bailey proposes to make upon those who oppose him.

In the event that Mr. Bailey becomes acrimonious to this extent he will not be allowed to get through the next session, or even the first week of it, without encountering a rebuff. This is the ultimatum of the opposition, and Mr. Bailey has been given the hint.

GRABBED A FUR CLOAK SO AS TO GET EVEN

Expense Given by a Self-Alleged Rowlandville, Md. Quarry Owner for a Searing Theft.

Trenton, N. J., Dec. 3.—Frank Allison, a well-dressed colored man, was arrested this morning with a woman's fur cape in his possession. At the hearing in police court he claimed to be a Rowlandville, Md. quarry owner, and said he was worth \$50,000. He came to Trenton on business and was robbed of his money in his lodge-house last night.

He took the cape to get even, but was unable to tell the police where the house was located. He had a \$30 check drawn in his order by George C. Logan, of Hittington, Md., but was unable to get it cashed. He was released as a witness and an effort will be made to locate the mysterious boarding-house.

The Gunboat Scorpion Safe.

It is stated at the Navy Department that the general reception, the non-arrival of which at New York has caused anxiety for a dispatch from that city, caused anxiety for her safety, is at Port Royal, having arrived at that port from Havana, Thursday, December 1. The Scorpion is not under orders to New York and may remain at Port Royal several days.

Fire in Bishop's Building.

A slight fire occurred shortly after 1 o'clock this afternoon in the Bishop's Building, 315 F Street northwest. The damage to the building will amount to about \$100.

SESSION POSTPONED BY MUTUAL CONSENT

Joint Meeting Set for This Afternoon Put Over Until Next Monday.

Paris, Dec. 3.—By mutual consent the meeting of the Joint Peace Commission, which was to have been held today, has been postponed until Monday.

Dispatches from Madrid this morning report that fresh precautions have been taken by the Government in several provinces, especially in Saragossa and Vizcaya, in view of the possibility of a Carlist uprising.

Secretary Hay received information today from Paris which caused him to hasten to the White House in the rain, where he conferred with the President for about thirty minutes.

It was afterwards stated that the treaty of peace will be completed early next week, and that the American Peace Commissioners will sail for home next Saturday. No hitch is expected over the acquisition of one of the Caroline Islands as a cable and coaling station.

There is considerable quibbling over the amount to be paid, but the State Department officials believe that it will be settled satisfactorily to this country.

EVENTS OF THE DAY AT THE WHITE HOUSE

The President Kept Busy

The Cabinet Officers, President of Costa Rica and Senator Platt Call During the Day.

The president of the President's message to Congress arrived at the White House this morning, and much of Mr. McKinley's time was devoted to putting the finishing touches to it. In consequence, a great number of persons who called called in their endeavor to see the President, and were informed that he would not have a moment's time to devote to any business, except that of the utmost importance, until after Congress convened.

The President, however, held extended conferences with such members of his Cabinet, with the exception of Secretary Wilson.

It was stated at the White House that the Nicaragua Canal question was considered by the President and the members of his Cabinet. Secretary Hay, upon leaving, would give no information regarding the conference, but said that a communication had been received from Consul Hart, at Bogota, stating that the house of representatives of Colombia had rejected the petition of the Panama Canal Company to extend the time six years for completing the work on the canal.

One of the propositions said to have been submitted to Secretary Hay by the representatives of the above company was that an agreement would be entered into with the United States to complete the canal and have it ready for navigation within the remaining six years allowed the company to complete their work. It is said that Secretary Hay communicated this proposition to the President this morning, but would state nothing relative to what bearings it might have had upon the Nicaragua Canal question. Secretary Gage said upon leaving the Executive Mansion that he had called on the President in reference to his annual report which he is now preparing.

The first caller this morning was Senator Thomas C. Platt, who arrived at 9:30. He had to wait in the lobby some moments before seeing Mr. McKinley. The conference was brief, and on coming out the Senator would say nothing as to its purport.

His visit is understood to have reference to the British ambassadorship, and also to the case of Capt. Carter, a modification in the verdict of which he is pressing. President Yglesias, of Costa Rica, made a formal call this morning. He expressed his thanks to President McKinley for the many courtesies extended to him during his stay in Washington.

The civil service proclamation which it was expected would be issued by the President today is being held up for a number of changes and the statement is made that it will not be given out for a number of days.

CLAYTON-BULWER TREATY MAY BE ABROGATED

British Claim That This Government Cannot Rightfully Build the Nicaragua Canal.

London, Dec. 3.—The abrogation of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty is seriously discussed here. It is stated that the treaty prevents the construction of the Nicaragua Canal by the United States and no other power is able to do it. Many say that England herself should propose abrogation, relying on compensation from the United States elsewhere.

If England insists on the abrogation of the treaty it means a veto to the canal project.

Assignment of Naval Reserves.

Norfolk, Va., Dec. 3.—A detachment of the Louisiana Naval Reserves arrived here this morning. They will man the converted yacht Stranger which will proceed to New Orleans and be assigned to the Louisiana Reserve for use as a practice ship. The Florida Reserves, which will man the Vesp, will shortly convey her to her destination.

Hanged for Murder.

Helena, Ark., Dec. 3.—Charles Munn was hanged here yesterday. On October 8 Munn killed his employer, Frank Dabarry, and burned the body in the house. Munn committed the deed while drunk and for the purpose of robbery.

At Sea With Box Cargo on Fire.

Liverpool, Dec. 3.—The steamer Lenah from Galveston, has arrived at Point Lynne and signaled that her cargo of cotton is on fire. Arrangements have been made to dock the vessel and extinguish the flames.

Fire in Bishop's Building.

A slight fire occurred shortly after 1 o'clock this afternoon in the Bishop's Building, 315 F Street northwest. The damage to the building will amount to about \$100.

THE WAR AGAINST GENERAL MILES

Apparent Plot to Destroy the
Commanding General.

AN OLD VETERAN TALKS

Distribution of Patronage to the
Military Committees.

Political Rewards Which May Prevent a Fair Investigation of the
Conduct of the War.

Army circles have been very much wrought up over the exposure that has been made in the war that is being waged against Gen. Miles by War Department officials. Hundreds of stories are being told about the plot to destroy the reputation of the commanding general and of the men who seem to be engaged in the scheme. Of the latter there are many in circulation which would not look well in print. The least respectable one, it is alleged, was concerning a game of cards at Fort Clark, when it is said, cheating was discovered, exposed and the cheater driven from the post; driven away, when, as army officers think, he should have been court-martialed for conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman.

An old veteran friend of Gen. Miles explained the situation today, as follows: "From the beginning of the war," he said, "the commanding general has been surrounded by critical conditions. At first, he was put forth that Gen. Miles had said: 'This war will make me President.' That was a lie out of whole cloth. He was taken to Mr. McKinley, who believed it. The next lie was that Gen. Miles wanted to go to Cuba, and 'prevent Shafter from gaining any glory.' That also was a lie.

"When Shafter was disobedient of orders at Santiago, if Gen. Miles had placed him in arrest, as he should have done, the War Department clique would have cried that Miles had committed an outrage, through jealousy of Shafter. Consequently, Miles allowed the fat and fat-witted fellow to go unscathed. Now, if he had caused the arrest of the brother-in-law of the President, who was in Porto Rico, he would have been overruled by the Secretary of War, and the cry of the Corbin crowd would have been heard throughout the length and breadth of the land. Gen. Miles did perfectly right, under the circumstances. When all of the facts are known, public condemnation will be felt in high places.

"The American people are slow to understand these things, but when they do understand them, they compel the wrongdoers to suffer.

"Whoever supposes that Adj. Gen. Corbin will ever come face to face with his just deserts does not know how things are done in the National Capital. Right here at the seat of Government we know that we are surrounded by men who wear governmental functions and use them for personal ends.

"But the real crucial test is to come three weeks hence, when the entire treacherous scheme of the Administration is to be laid bare. Nobody knows this better than Adj. Gen. Corbin; nobody appreciates the fact quite so well. He is getting ready for the real battle.

"All Congressional affairs are carried on by committees. The hurry-burry body of Congressmen have little to do with legislation. They are like sheep, following their bellhops. The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations and the House Committee on Foreign Affairs make reports concerning our relations with foreign countries, and the Senate and House adopt those reports. It was those committees which adopted reports which resulted in a declaration of war with Spain. It will be those committees which will settle the conclusion of peace.

"The Senate Committee on Military Affairs and the House Committee on Military Affairs will receive and consider resolutions providing for an investigation of the War Department. Into the hands of the members of those two committees will be given the entire investigation of the war with Spain, and the men composing the committees will finally adopt reports which will be ratified by both houses of Congress.

"Now, let us understand that the sugar trust is being corrupted in advance. The people may rage and cry for revenge upon the authors of the crimes of the camps and the miseries of the hospital transports. But the case of the people against the mal-administration will be tried before a corrupted jury. This fact cannot be understood too soon. It cannot be too widely disseminated.

"As an illustration, Congressman Hull of Iowa is chairman of the House Committee on Military Affairs. His son is a colonel in the volunteer army. Hull's son was appointed to his lucrative position by Adj. Gen. Corbin, and Hull is a Corbin man. He is the chairman of that powerful committee, and he will manage that committee, in fact, dominate it, when the investigation begins.

"Now let us take a look at other members of that all-important committee. The members are Marsh, of Illinois; Griffin, of Wisconsin; Keitcham, of New York; Fenton, of Ohio; Mahany, of New York; Belknap, of Illinois; McDonald, of Maryland; and Brownlow, of Tennessee. These are all Republicans.

"On the Democratic side of this committee are Sulzer, of New York; Martin, of North Carolina; Cox, of Tennessee; Lentz, of Ohio; Hay, of Virginia; Jett, of Illinois; and Smith, of Arizona.

"Not one of these men has received less than three special appointments from the War Department; and hence all of them are under obligations to the Adjutant General and Secretary of War for those special favors. Chairman Hull has received in all, besides the colonelcy for his son, fourteen appointments.

"This is the jury which is to try the accused. How can the people expect to secure justice? The facts must be placed before their constituents, and before the entire people of the country, so that the officially bribed jurors may appreciate the

fact that the people will look after their scraps in the future, if they neglect their sworn duties, in the interests of the criminals.

"Now look at the Senate Committee on Military Affairs, and see what we may expect.

"Senator Hawley, of Connecticut, is chairman of that committee. He has a large War Department patronage than all the other Congressional people from Connecticut combined. The other members of the committee are Senators Proctor, of Vermont; Shoup, of Idaho; Sewall, of New Jersey; Warren, of Wyoming; and Carter, of Montana. There are all Republicans. Every one of these Senators has received a plethora of patronage. It may almost be said of them that, 'they have been bought with a price.' That is, a price of political and official pay.

"There are also Senators Bates, of Tennessee; Cockrell, of Missouri; Mitchell, of Wisconsin; and Pettus, of Alabama. These are Democrats, and they also have received their share of the plunder of the war. In dispensing favors the Secretary of War and his Adjutant General have been careful to give liberally to the Democratic members of these committees, in order that the entire jury may be 'fixed.' And it is.

"Now, what show will Gen. Miles have when he comes as an accusing witness for the people in the presence of such a jury? Gen. Miles has never dispensed any patronage. The members of the jury know that he has scorned their political pull; that he begged the President and Secretary of War to permit him to select men of experience in military affairs for staff and other commissions. They know that he urged the appointment of capable veterans of the civil war volunteer armies. But they know that Gen. Miles was turned down and their political favorites appointed in spite of him, whereby our soldiers were slaughtered in damnable camps, on floating hospital hells and by starvation. The surviving friends of poor fifty should remember this, and if they reverse the memory of that brave young man as they should they should demand a fair trial, before an impartial jury, in order that the murderers may be brought face to face with retributive justice.

"But, in seeking a fair jury—if public opinion should demand that the Committee on Military Affairs should be ignored and other Senators and Representatives be appointed on a select committee for the investigation of the criminals—the people will be confronted again with another jury which has been 'fixed,' because the Secretary of War and the Adjutant General have given patronage to every Senator and Representative in Congress, and, therefore, every man who can serve on a Congressional committee is under obligations to those warblers.

"It is any wonder that Adj. Gen. Corbin is so much against the investigation? Colonel Goethal asked that most of the cold air was pumped down that most of the stokers were, as it was impossible for those men to stand the heat in the tropics unless this was done.

Being cross-questioned Colonel Goethal stated that the men who went to Porto Rico on the St. Louis were not inappreciated for military duty, although they had such poor accommodations.

General McCook, of the Commission, expressed surprise that the St. Louis was in such bad condition. He said he crossed the Atlantic on her, and found that the ventilation was all that could be desired. Colonel Goethal asked that most of the cold air was pumped down that most of the stokers were, as it was impossible for those men to stand the heat in the tropics unless this was done.

Captain McKay, formerly engaged in the steamship business, who testified yesterday, took the stand again today. He was engaged as a civilian to assist the quartermaster's department. Generally speaking his testimony was that the transports used were in good condition.

The Allegiance, he said, was as clean and comfortable a vessel as could have been secured. The Omaha was also in a nice condition. There was plenty of ice, two large schooners having arrived at Santiago before the transports sailed for the United States. The supplies were abundant at Santiago—including soap, milk, ginger ale, jelly, medicines and everything needed by the sick and wounded.

Everything was all right on the Seneca with the exception of being overcrowded, and some of the men could not obtain staterooms. The Seneca was short on ice during a portion of the trip. That was because the ice schooners had not arrived when the Seneca left Sidney. The cabins were in good condition and the men had the usual soldier's rations.

The Commission summoned Colonel Martin and Moore, of the Quartermaster's Department, for examination at the session this afternoon.

THE COMMISSIONERS REFUSE A PERMIT

Advise United States Company to Answer Petition of the Potomac Electric Power Company.

The request of the United States Electric Lighting Company for permission to repair a manhole in front of premises No. 74 Fifteenth Street northwest has been temporarily denied by the Board of District Commissioners.

The manhole is a part of the line for which a permit had already been granted. The Commissioners state, and which is now before the court upon an application for an injunction. For this reason they do not deem it advisable to issue another permit.

The Commissioners advise the United States Company to answer the petition of the Potomac Electric Power Company so that the question can be settled and the great inconvenience caused to the public by the torn-up condition of the streets be remedied. After that has been done the Commissioners say they will issue the permit.

Cumberland Tin Mill.

Cumberland, Md., Dec. 3.—Rumors based on excellent authority that the Cumberland tin plate plant of the Cumberland Steel and Tin Plate Company, has been purchased by the trust and that possession will soon be acquired. The tin mill employs 250 hands.

The plant has been running steadily night and day. What disposition will be made is unknown, but it is said it will either be continued in operation or dismantled entirely.

Hunting for His Wife.

Winslow, N. J., Dec. 3.—George W. Brown, whose young and attractive wife disappeared from home recently, leaving a note hinting at an intention to commit suicide, believes the note was a blind, and he is trying to discover his wife's whereabouts. He suspects an elopement.

Diphtheria Epidemic in Camden.

Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 3.—An epidemic of diphtheria has broken out in the Fifth ward, Camden. Three new cases were reported to the board of health yesterday, making six cases so far reported. One death has occurred, the victim being the five-year-old son of Edward Jones, who succumbed to black diphtheria on Thursday.

Diphtheria Closes Schools.

Clarkston, N. J., Dec. 3.—Diphtheria has broken out in Mount Royal, and the board of education has closed the public schools for at least three weeks. An eight-year-old daughter of Peter Hughes died from the dread disease, and now a son and another daughter are ill.

FOUL BEDDING AND BAD VENTILATION

Colonel Goethal Describes the
Transport Conditions.

A DIRTY MILITARY CAMP

Unpleasant Testimony Before the
Alger Relief Board.

Rosy Opinions of Captain McKay, a
Civilian Employee in the Quartermaster's Service.

"The ship was in horrible condition. It was dirty, the ventilation was poor, the bedding was foul, and the meals were simply abominable."

That is what Lieut. Col. George W. Goethal, of the Volunteer Engineers, said to the Alger Relief Board about the steamer St. Louis, which conveyed a portion of Gen. Brooke's command from Newport News to Porto Rico. Just before making that forcible statement he testified that he was nearly two months stationed at Camp Thomas. He described the camp as particularly dirty, and even charged that Major Gen. Brooke's headquarters were in filthy condition.

Belig asked why this was so he declared that it was for lack of sufficient police. Col. Goethal also said that the water supply at Chicomanga was bad. He considered the water from the creek purer than the "Crawfish Spring" water that has been so much talked of. He explained that the wells used to get low when the weather was dry, and fill up after heavy rains, and he inferred that they received the surface drainage from the dirty camps.

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ROBBERS MURDER A HOTEL PROPRIETOR

KILL HIM FOR RESISTING THEM
Gag a Servant Who Screamed, Blow Open a Safe With Dynamite and Make Their Escape.

Pittston, Pa., Dec. 3.—Masked robbers entered the room of Michael Corcoran, a hotel proprietor, at Duryea, and attempted to bind him to his bed. Corcoran resisted and was shot in the neck and killed. The robbers then blew open the safe in the room and escaped with several hundred dollars. There is no clew.

The shot pierced Corcoran's jugular vein, and he died almost instantly. The robbers, who numbered four, and who spoke English fairly well, then proceeded with their work upon the safe. Miss Kate Monaghan, a servant employed by Corcoran, hearing the noise, began to scream. The robbers seized her and fastened a gag between her teeth, and she was helpless. Then they blew the safe with dynamite. They secured about \$500.

THE MAGOWANS LEAVE FOR PARTS UNKNOWN

TAKE EDITH BARNES ALONG

Another Sensational Turn to Their Trial for Illegal Possession of the Woman's Daughter.

Erie, Pa., Dec. 3.—Mr. and Mrs. Frank A. Magowan have given their case here another sensational turn by getting out of town and taking with them the child, Edith Beryl Barnes, daughter of Mrs. Magowan, whose abduction from Cleveland on November 11 was the opening act of the whole matter.

The Magowans left some time last night, and it was not until this morning that their absence became known. It is not thought they left together, and nobody knows where they have gone. They have left all their luggage at the private residence where they were staying, and their hostess was as much surprised at the departure as anybody.

Magowan and Mayor Saltsman had a heated altercation at a club last night. Magowan very harshly criticized the county detective, chief of police and other officials, and the mayor as badly as sending it. But for the intervention of friends, they would have come to blows.

COMMISSIONERS BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE

ANNUAL BUDGET OF THE DISTRICT

The Conference Was Only Preliminary, and No Definite Action Was Taken on Any Matter.

Commissioners Wright and Beach were before the subcommittee of the House Committee on Appropriations, of which Representative Groat is chairman, this morning to explain and urge the necessity of such District appropriations as are recommended in the annual budget of estimates recently submitted.

The conference was only preliminary and no definite action has been taken on any of the important matters included in the budget, outside of the regular expenses of the District.

The appropriations asked for the District this year are heavier than ever before, and the subcommittee, while it does not oppose the several items representing the extraordinary amounts, has decided to exact explicit explanations from the District Commissioners, who have been prompt to show the necessity for the amount they have asked for. The conference today occupied several hours. Others will be held next week.

CHINESE SQUADRON ORDERED TO NANKIN

Dispute between the French Consul and the Chinese Viceroy, Threatens Serious Consequences.

Shanghai, Dec. 3.—A dispute has arisen at Nankin between the French consul and the Chinese viceroy. The consul is backed by the French cruiser Desbarres. The viceroy has ordered up the Nan Yang squadron.

A British war vessel is coming.

CONVICTED BY THE BAR ASSOCIATION

Verdict in the Case of Lawyer Burke, Accused of Slandering Judge Dellenbaugh.

Cleveland, Ohio, Dec.